

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a flat display element provided with a pair of substrates opposed to each other across a given gap and including respective peripheral edge portions thereof stuck on each other with a sealant, comprising:

preparing a pair of motherboards ~~greater~~ larger than the substrates;

forming a display forming portion on each motherboard;

locating ~~[[a]]~~ the sealant on at least one of the motherboards so as to surround the peripheral edge portion of the display forming portion; ~~and~~

locating, on end portions of the motherboard except corner portions of the motherboard, spacers for maintaining the gap between the two motherboards and a dummy sealant covering spacers, the sealant and the dummy sealant being formed individually of materials cured by the same method;

locating, on ~~end~~ the corner portions of the motherboard, end spacers for maintaining the gap between the two motherboards and a tacker covering the end spacers, the dummy sealant and the tacker being formed individually of materials cured by different methods;

sticking the two motherboards on each other with the sealant, dummy sealant, spacers, end spacers, and tacker between the two;

aligning the two stuck motherboards with each other;

tacking the two motherboards to each other by curing the tacker after the aligning;

finally bonding the two motherboards to each other by curing the sealant and dummy sealant after the tacking; and

cutting out the substrates by cutting the two motherboards outside the sealant after the final bonding.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a flat display element according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ locating the end spacers and the tacker includes spreading the tacker loaded with the end spacers over the motherboard.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a flat display element according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ locating the end spacers and the tacker includes forming pillar-shaped end spacers on the motherboard and then spreading the tacker over the motherboard so as to cover the end spacers.

4. (Original) A method for manufacturing a flat display element according to claim 1, wherein the end spacers and the tacker are located at least in four corners at the end portions of the motherboard.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a flat display element comprising a pair of substrates opposed to each other across a given gap and including respective peripheral edge portions thereof stuck on each other with a sealant, a plurality of spacer posts arranged between the substrates and maintaining the gap between the substrates, and an optical modulation layer sealed in a region surrounded by the sealant, the method comprising:

preparing a pair of motherboards ~~greater~~ larger than the substrates;

forming a display forming portion on each motherboard;

locating the sealant on at least one of the motherboards so as to surround the peripheral edge portion of the display forming portion ~~and~~ ;

locating, on end portions of the motherboard except corner portions of the motherboard, spacers for maintaining the gap between the two motherboards and a dummy sealant covering spacers, the sealant and the dummy sealant being formed individually of materials cured by the same method;

locating, on ~~end~~ the corner portions of the motherboard, end spacers for maintaining the gap between the two motherboards and a tacker covering the end spacers, the dummy sealant and the tacker being formed individually of materials cured by different methods;

sticking the two motherboards on each other with the sealant, dummy sealant, spacers, end spacers, and tacker between the two;

aligning the two stuck motherboards with each other;

tacking the two motherboards to each other by curing the tacker after the aligning;

finally bonding the two motherboards to each other by curing the sealant and dummy sealant after the tacking; and

cutting out the substrates by cutting the two motherboards outside the sealant after the final bonding.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a flat display element according to claim 5, wherein ~~the~~ locating the end spacers and the tacker includes spreading the tacker loaded with the end spacers over the motherboard.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a flat display element according to claim 5, wherein ~~the~~ locating the end spacers and the tacker includes forming pillar-shaped end spacers on the motherboard and then spreading the tacker over the motherboard so as to cover the end spacers.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a flat display element according to claim 5, wherein pillar-shaped spacers situated on the display forming portion of the one motherboard and ~~the~~ pillar-shaped end spacers situated at the end portions of the motherboard are formed in the same step, and the tacker is spread over the motherboard so as to cover the end spacers.

9. (Original) A method for manufacturing a flat display element according to claim 5, wherein the optical modulation layer is a liquid crystal layer formed of a liquid crystal constituent.

10. (Cancel)

11. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a flat display element according to claim ~~4~~ 5, wherein the sealant and the ~~tacker~~ dummy sealant are formed of a thermosetting material ~~and an ultraviolet-curing material, respectively, and the tacker is~~ formed of an ultraviolet-curing material.

12. (Original) A method for manufacturing a flat display element according to claim 5, wherein the end spacers and the tacker are located at least in the four corners at the end portions of the motherboard.

13. (New) A method for manufacturing a flat display element according to claim 1, wherein the sealant and the dummy sealant are each formed of a thermosetting material and the tacker is formed of an ultraviolet-curing material.